

Appl. No. 10/604,897
Amdt. Dated August 10, 2005
Reply to Office action of June 08, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner:

5 Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mahashwari et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,932,976). Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Simopoulos et al. (U.S. patent # 4,595,861). Claims 1-[2] and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maheshwari et al. (U.S. Patent # 5,932,976) in combination with Yatabe et al. (U.S. Patent 5,453,667). Claims 3-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Response:

15 The Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the allowance of claims 3-7 if rewritten appropriately. Without any disclaimer of any kind regarding the merits of any claim in this application, the Applicant has chosen to incorporate the limitations of allowed claim 3 into claim 1, cancel claim 9, and believes that these amendments place the present application in condition for allowance.

20 Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case should the Examiner concur.

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Sincerely yours,



Date: August 10, 2005

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